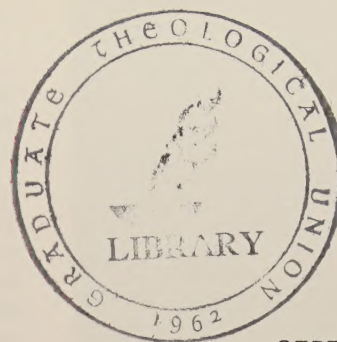




CXV

No. 8

Leaves of Healing



OCT 02 1979

SEPTEMBER 1979

Monthly publication of the Christian Catholic Church
An Evangelical Protestant Church
Headquarters — Zion, Illinois, U.S.A.

Building On The Word

by General Overseer Roger W. Ottersen

es phrase "BUILDING ON THE
ORD" is more than the theme of
n's Convocation '79 — it is also
challenge we face as a church
owship.

Everything done by our church
st have a proper foundation. We
ld on the foundation of the past.
a church we have been blessed in
ny different ways with strong
l stable programs. Sometimes
se of us who are involved with
day by day operation of these
grams can't see how truly
ssed we have been. However,
ers looking in from the outside
amazed at all that's being done.
praise God for all our fine
grams and the dedicated people
to make these programs work.

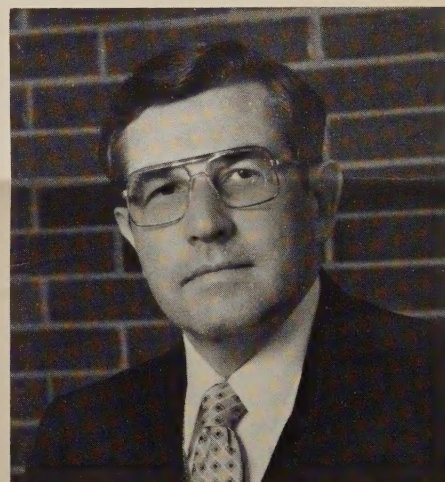
However, we must constantly
k at what we are doing. We must
luate our many ministries by the
ndard of God's Word. We state
our Basis of Fellowship that we
cognize the infallible inspiration
l sufficiency of the Holy Scrip-
es as the rule of faith and prac-
e." This means that for the fellow-
p of our church the Bible is the
ndard for what we believe (faith)
l for how we live (practice).

This very important and basic
cept is foundational to all we
ach, teach and practice as a
rch.

In the scriptures we read of the
importance of a proper and strong
foundation.

*"According to the grace of God
which is given unto me, as a wise
masterbuilder, I have laid the foun-
dation. and another buildeth there-
on. But let every man take heed how
he buildeth thereupon. For other
foundation can no man lay than that
is laid, which is Jesus Christ."*

The foundational truths upon
which our church is built are the
truths laid down for us in the Word
of God by the apostles. The founda-
tion is Jesus Christ -- He is the
Truth! We are building the work of
God on this foundation already laid.
We must recognize that the task
of the church is to Build! We are
building the Church with the Lord
Himself adding to His church daily
those who are being saved (see Acts
2:47). This is done by building
lives . . . all our facilities and pro-
grams should be planned to accom-
plish one major goal — that of
building lives! Everything we do as
a church should be aiming at this
major purpose to Evangelize, Edify,
and Encourage the church. **Evangel-
izing** is the process of reaching out
to win others to the Savior. **Edify-
ing** is the task of teaching and build-
ing up the believers that they in
turn can be strong, consistent, re-



sponsible members of the body of
Christ. **Encouraging** is done when
we help to inspire and uplift our
brothers and sisters in Christ. We
have a great task — but we also
have a great Savior who is not only
the source of our salvation, but He
is also the strength of our service.
(see Psalm 27:1, Jude 24). He will
enable us to go on in our faith and
service for Him.

THE SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 30 — October 7, 1979

"Building on the Word," is the
theme for this year's 79th Annual
Convocation. General Overseer
Roger W. Ottersen, who chose the
theme, will also bring the keynote

opening address on Sunday evening of September 30. Services open to the public will be held three times daily, at 7:00 a.m. (led by members of the Diaconate), 9:30 a.m. and at 7:00 p.m. General Council Ministerial Meetings will also be held on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 3:00 p.m. for discussion of timely subjects and for general sharing from the different fields.

Delegates and representatives from the various countries as well as those from churches and missions in the United States include the following:

AUSTRALIA

Rev. and Mrs. Noel (Verna) Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Trevor (Alison) Kelso

CANADA

Rev. Samuel Harrichand
Mr. James Harrichand

GUYANA

Rev. Edward Pollard

JAMAICA

Rev. and Mrs. Roy (Valerie) Graham

Chicago

Rev. and Mrs. Theodore (Josephine) Mason

Inscription House and Kaibeto Navajo Mission

Rev. and Mrs. Bernard (Edna) Reimer
Rev. and Mrs. Roy (Susan) Tate
(not confirmed)

Rev. and Mrs. Jerry (Mary) Begay
(not confirmed)

Rev. and Mrs. LeRoy (Sue) Nez
(not confirmed)

Michigan City, Indiana

Rev. and Mrs. Dean (Audrey) Matteson

Phoenix, Arizona

Rev. and Mrs. Dale (Judy) Anderson

Pray with us for a great outpouring of God's Spirit upon each one who attends.

P.S. Word has also been received that Iris Mintern will also be coming from Vancouver, British Columbia.

"BUILDING ON THE WORD"

THREE ESSENTIALS FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH

I. The first essential for Christian growth is, of course, THE WORD OF GOD.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." I Peter 2:2

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises:

that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." II Peter 1:4

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." (Jesus' prayer for His disciples. John 17:17)

"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe." I Thessalonians 2:13

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Timothy 3:16,17

II. The second essential for Christian growth is THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE.

The Pharisees and Sadducees in Jesus' day knew the word of God in their minds. They could quote the entire Old Testament perfectly, yet their knowledge of scripture did not give them spiritual life or growth. In fact, their confidence in having the light of scripture blinded them to the true Light, Jesus Christ. They were so bound to the law of Moses and their efforts to keep the law, they could not understand or appreciate the grace of God in Jesus Christ, God's Son. Without the ministry of the Holy Spirit to illumine the heart, the word of God is a "letter that kills."

"Who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter, but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." II Corinthians 3:6 NASB

"And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures? Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures." Luke 24:32, 45

When a person receives Christ as Savior, he is said to be "born again," "born of the Spirit," or "born of God." The Holy Spirit dwells within that person to guide into truth and to apply the word of God to the heart. The scriptures then be-

come life-giving through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus, speaking to His disciples just before His death said:

"I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak and He will disclose to you what is to come. He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you." John 16:12-13 NASB

"By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit." I John 4:13 NASB

"And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for any one to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him." I John 2:2 NASB

III. The third essential for Christian growth is A RECEPTIVE HEART which is characterized by FAITH and OBEDIENCE.

"And we are witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit, whom God hath given to them that obey Him." Acts 5:32

"Jesus answered and said, If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." John 14:23

"Unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." Hebrews 4:2

Christian growth cannot take place without three essentials no more than a three-legged stool can rest solidly on less than three legs.

If you are not growing in the Lord, which "leg" is missing?

E.L.M.

IN MEMORIAM

Frederick Norris, Jr., (U.S. Navy)
Zion, July 15, 1979

Phil Bartholomew
Zion, July 24, 1979

Interview with Luann Wimmer



The following is the substance of a taped interview between Pastor Minton and Luann Wimmer, on August 17, 1979. Luann will be a sophomore at Northern Illinois University this fall.

Pastor Minton: "Luann, your testimony given earlier this summer during a Vesper Service was a blessing to all. Unfortunately, it was not taped, so I am grateful to you for coming to share some of the things that God has been doing in your life. Tell us first how you came to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior."

Luann: "I attended the Catholic Church ever since I was two or three, but it was at Camp Zion in my freshman year of high school that I came to know the Lord."

Pastor Minton: "What were some of the factors in your life that helped you to become the enthusiastic witnessing Christian that you are now?"

Luann: "The most influential person in my life during my high school years was Audrey Matteson. I was not very active in the youth groups but Audrey would sit down and talk to me and would share helpful Scripture verses. Nancy Beckersmith was also a strong influence on my life for Christ. With her and Audrey taught the freshmen high school Sunday school class, and they both were what I really wanted to be — beautiful young women turned on for Christ. My mother was really influential too, for she was always there — with Scripture or counsel. My first two weeks on the university campus were really hard because I didn't know any other Christian, and her letters and prayers just kept me going."

Pastor Minton: "I am sure that with Nancy and Audrey would be expected to know of their good influence on your life. Nancy, I know, felt she had been an absolute failure as a freshmen Sunday school teacher. Other Bible school teachers and youth workers ought also to

take encouragement from this. . . . So you found yourself on this large secular university campus with no Christian friends. How did you meet and become involved with other Christians in a witnessing ministry on campus?"

Luann: "Before leaving for college, I got in touch with both Campus Crusade for Christ and Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. A couple of weeks after my arrival at school I received a call from representatives of both organizations and the Lord led me to fellowship and work with Inter-Varsity. I attended the meetings which at first were quite small — only about twenty — but during the year we grew to about fifty active members. The members of Inter-Varsity were not paid staff members but were students like myself. They were a loving and caring group of people and I grew in the Lord with them. I also attended one of their conferences to receive training in evangelism and discipleship. It was good and I really needed it."

Pastor Minton: "I understand you joined a team during spring break to go to Florida to witness on the beaches to the thousands of other students who migrate there during spring break for relaxation and partying. How did this come about?"

Luann: "It was during a snow storm in January that a group of us got together since classes had been cancelled. Someone brought up the subject and suggested I go. I just said, 'no, no, no!,' 'It's not for me!' 'I just don't like cold turkey evangelism!' I didn't even pray about it. I just said, 'No!' Later, as someone was sharing the need and giving the challenge to consider it, I prayed for guidance, and the Lord said, 'GO!' I didn't have the money for the trip, but felt that if God wanted me to go, I would be willing to drop out of school for a while and work, if necessary. However, just before I went, I received a check from my grandfather which met most of my expenses."

"In Florida, we studied evangel-

ism in the morning and put it into practice on the beaches in the afternoon. I talked to a lot of people and was amazed to find how empty most people are. I had always thought that most people were generally happy, but they are not. They seem confused about life and they have no purpose or definite goals. Though we didn't see any dramatic conversions during the week, we did see God's Spirit at work in the lives of some with whom we talked. Most of all, the week was especially helpful in my own Christian life."

Pastor Minton: "This past summer you have been serving as counselor at a camp sponsored by Moody Church for inner city children and youth. What kind of experiences did you have there?"

Luann: "It was probably the hardest thing I have ever done in my life. Most of these children have never experienced love and they are so hard. They are hyperactive, they always have their defenses up, and they don't believe anything you say, so it was a constant giving experience with little coming back in return. The cabins were designed to provide a family atmosphere with little competition or interaction between campers in other cabins. The purpose was to try to get them to begin caring for each other. It is not the kind of work I would choose, but I am glad for the experience."

Pastor Minton: "Urbana '79 will be held again this year right after

Christmas. Can you explain what Urbana '79 is and what your goal for student attendance from North-ern is?"

Luann: *"Urbana '79 is a Missionary Conference sponsored every three years by Inter-Varsity. The purpose is to present God as a global God and to challenge each person to see their responsibility as a witness for Christ to the world — in praying, in giving, and in going, as well as being a living witness for Christ wherever one is. Our goal is to have thirty-five students from Northern attend the Conference which is held at the University of Illinois at Urbana."*

Pastor Minton: "Having given your time this summer as a camp counselor, I am wondering how you are going to finance your next year at school as well as attend Urbana '79, which I understand costs \$145."

Luann: *"I plan to work as many hours as possible, and my parents will be helping with room and board. Other than that, I am not sure. If I have to drop out for a term to work, I am prepared to do that."*

Pastor Minton: "Thank you for sharing your testimony with us, Luann. Let us close with a word of prayer."

PRAYER

Thank you, Father, for your working in the life of Luann, and thank you for the way you have used her mother, the staff at Camp Zion, her Sunday school teachers and youth leaders to influence her life for God. We pray for your blessing on Luann and upon each of our college students that they may take a stand for Christ and allow Him to use their lives on the college and university campuses. May we also, as a church, stand behind them with our prayers, and when needed, our gifts, that they may be encouraged in Christ, in Whose wonderful Name, we pray. Amen.

Note: Other testimonies shared by college students this summer, but which unfortunately, were also not recorded, were from Jeff Davis, Doug LaBelle, Bill Burris, Dan Lehman, and Josephine Peterson.

Jeff Davis is attending the University of Wisconsin at Stout Campus in Menomonie, Wisconsin. During the past year, Jeff was involved with Inter-Varsity Bible study and

social outreach group meetings. For this coming school year, Jeff has been chosen as Evangelism Chairman. As part of his goal, he is seeking to have at least ten incoming freshmen enroll for Urbana '79. As he shared that burden with the church, the Lord prompted a number of people to contribute toward partial scholarships for several students to attend Urbana '79.

Doug LaBelle is at the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse where he has been active with Campus Crusade for Christ.

Bill Burris is entering his junior

year at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. While there he attends the Columbus Avenue Baptist Church and is a member of their choir. He also is involved in their outreach program through the Sunday School.

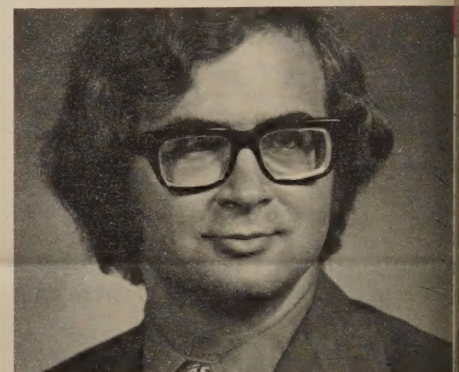
Both Dan Lehman and Josephine Peterson are students at Moody Bible Institute. Josephine's emphasis is in music while Dan's is in Bible and Theology. During this summer, Dan has been working at the C.C.C. headquarters church assisting Rick Anderson in youth activities and Bible study.

Testimony of Mike Grigas

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." — Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NIV)

This month I am beginning a one year study program at the Institute of Slavic Studies in Wheaton, Illinois, which is sponsored by the Slavic Gospel Association. The program is designed to give one a better knowledge of the religious, political, and cultural atmosphere in Russia and Eastern Europe. Upon completing this program I intend to apply to the Slavic Gospel Association for full time service for ministry to Russian speaking peoples.

I can only praise God for His provision and guidance in directing me into this work. During the past few months I have been able to assist in a SGA sponsored program in Chicago. In the Rogers Park neighborhood (north side) there is a Russian Center for Emigres. Some of the staff are full time SGA workers while others, like myself, are helpers. We try to assist these people in getting adjusted to American life and to witness to them of Christ. Most of these people have been here for only six months or a year, but a few have been here two years. Many have



difficulty in getting around because of the language barrier. We offer classes in the English language to help them get better jobs. Other are lonesome and welcome the friendship which we offer. I have developed many friendships through this outreach.

I have always had an interest in meeting people from different countries. When I attended the University of Illinois from 1972-74 I had the opportunity to become acquainted with several foreign students from Nigeria and Hong Kong. I graduated with a degree in international relations. Included in this course of study were two years of Russian. I had my hopes set on working with the State Department in Washington but God had other plans. Upon my graduation I took a job in a factory. It did not relate at all to what I had studied. The months and years went by and nothing came to pass. Frustration set in many times; I wondered if going to school had been a big mis-

ce. Still I kept seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matt. 6:33). I wanted to be as close to the Holy Spirit as possible.

While attending one of our Vespers Services last fall I felt God stirring my heart towards a ministry to communist lands. I was touched by the testimony of our Romanian brother, Pastor Simion Potz, and the film "Operation Tricho". I began to seek God for guidance on how I could use my academic background in this kind of ministry. I began to read up on the Russian language and culture in order to refresh my knowledge of this part of the world. In looking through some literature at home I discovered an advertisement for further information on the Institute

of Slavic Studies. Upon getting in contact with the staff I made a trip to Wheaton. I was very impressed with what I saw and felt even more God's confirmation that this was the work which He had been preparing me for. I applied for this coming school year and in late April received word of my acceptance. In preparing myself for school I have been involved in co-teaching a high school Sunday School class. The Rogers Park ministry has also broadened my interest and awareness of Russian culture.

I have left the comforts of home and of this church in Zion. We must be willing to go where the Spirit leads; it is part of God's charge upon our lives (Luke 9:23, 24; 14:26,27; Matt. 28:19,20).

You, the Pastoral Staff and members of the body, will always be on my heart. It will be a great privilege to represent you in the area of Slavic missions. I ask your prayers as I undertake this endeavor; first, that God will supply my needs "according to His riches in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19); second, and this I consider more important, that this verse will become my standard as I go forth for Jesus:

"According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death." — Philippians 1:20

MISSIONS

For Praise & Prayer

"So we ourselves ought to support such people . . . to be fellow workers with them in the truth." III John 8.

ANGOLA, AFRICA

On August 7th, Darrell Hocker-Smith submitted the papers in Luanda for a re-entry visa for his wife, Barbara, who is still with us in the States, visiting family and friends and ministering in churches. Pray for God's guidance in the answer to be received. A "no" answer would mean that Darrell could seek to return home. However, the church feels keenly the need for Darrell and Barbara to be here to help in the new seminary, beginning this fall.

Many hindrances have been experienced in getting the seminary started. The 14 room building in which the seminary was to be housed, and in which Darrell and Barbara, along with others had been living, has now been taken over by the government. In July, the police notified Darrell and the church leaders that they were taking over the building in three days. Praise God that there was a vacant parsonage which Darrell was able to move into.

Living is becoming more and more difficult in so many ways week by week in Angola, so faithful support in prayer is greatly appreciated.

WATE WORD: Barbara received a 90 day visa and will leave Sept. 14.

VENEZUELA, SOUTH AMERICA

c/o Seminario Evangelico Asociado
Apartado 475
Maracay 2K0, Aragua
VENEZUELA
23 July 1979

Dear Loved Ones,

I can't imagine being so blessed with letters from special people steadily. We are very very grateful for all of our loved ones who write (as well as those who spend their time praying instead). I'm having quite a time trying to get my pile of "owed letters" down. I can't seem to get ahead even though I write regularly.

We have had such a marvelous time having Nancy "home" with us. I'm praying now for special grace to be able to say "good-bye" again Friday morning.

We had a beautiful week's trip driving way way up into the highest part of the Andes mountains. We took an indicated shortcut which according to the map was only one and a half miles. I drove for two solid hours, up, up, up, with no road signs, above the clouds on a mountain ridge with no apparent way out. After three hours, we ascended in the right spot and were only on comparatively level ground for two miles



when the fan belt broke, throwing out our power steering and power brakes. God was very obviously with us in every way.

In less than five minutes an English-speaking Venezuelan stopped, took the shredded fan belt to the nearest town, returned with a new one (they just happened to have the right size), helped David put it on, and wouldn't accept any money. I gave him the one tract which I had in my purse, which Pastor Ottersen had given me, and told him it was the best gift I could offer. He accepted it graciously, so we are now praying that God will continue to bless through His words.

We rode on the highest and longest cable car in the world – though I think our mountain “short-cut” was more exciting – drove through an Indian village, and on over to Rubio where TEAM’s school for missionary children is located for a visit with friends, then travelled on to Columbia, S.A. for shopping. We were happy to return to Venezuela safely with no trouble by the military police. Nancy and Cheryl had a great time and what an experience “bargaining” for things.

It has been a blessing having Nancy here to play the organ for the services each Sunday as our regular organist is away on vacation. Nancy and I also taught Vacation Bible School for a week from 8:30 in the morning until 5:30 in the evening. The occasion was the Annual Conference of the Evangelical Free Church. We had the Junior High age, and what a blessed privilege it was. At the same time we had two young ladies from the other end of Venezuela spend four days with us. They were both Judy’s age so you can imagine how we enjoyed their visit. Every time we turn around we are making more friends. I had said a few years ago that if God gave me any more dear friends, I would burst. Well, He is still giving us friends and I am still able to contain myself.

A couple of weeks ago Cheryl and Nancy sang a duet, “All My Life,” for the Worship Service, with Nancy accompanying on the piano. The words of that song are so beautiful and having my girls singing it in South America was almost too much. It has been exciting to see all the opportunities the Lord continues to give us, even without my knowledge of Spanish.

Each Wednesday evening a family comes over for Bible study and fellowship. They are here for Johnson’s Wax of Racine, and they had never even held a Bible in their hands prior to their coming here. It is exciting to see God’s working in their lives.

Continue to pray regarding the purchase of land for the seminary.

Love to all,

Carolyn
For David and Carolyn Switzer
and Cheryl Dreyer

Mahon Mission, South Africa
54 Coedmore Rd.
Bellair, Natal 4094
9th August 1979

Dear Earl,

The Fourth of July passed very quietly here in Durban. On TV news we saw that the Consul General of Johannesburg put on quite a celebration. The American Consul in Durban used to put on a feast and invite all of the American clan, but I suppose that by the time he invited all of the Yanks plus all of the local dignitaries it would bankrupt his office. I can still well remember the first Fourth of July after I was converted and how I went to the park and button-holed all of my friends to try to convince them of the wonders of my newfound, glorious life in Christ.

As usual we have had a stream of visitors and are expecting more tomorrow and Saturday. Lyle and Sandy and Jonny were here for the weekend of June 30th to help us with our Quarterly Meetings. We had some very good services with an attendance of about six hundred. Sixteen young people were baptized and nine gave their hearts to the Lord. One would have to be present to appreciate the spirit of fellowship and joy in Christ. You could hear it in the singing and feel it in the handshake when they greeted you. Meetings like these make our service here seem very worth while. We all enjoyed Lyle’s messages in his beautiful Zulu. He is a very talented linguist. Sandy says that if anyone has the gift of tongues, it is her husband. Not only is he fluent in several languages, but his enunciation and pronunciation has all the tonal qualities of the people themselves and they delight to hear him. He is a good scholar and teacher and a wonderful husband to our daughter.

Sandy and Lyle were here for a week and we got together with Joel and his family for two meals. Jonny gets very lonely so he greatly enjoys playing with his cousins.

The following week an optometrist from England, who went with us to two of our city churches to prescribe glasses for our church people at greatly subsidized prices, was here for the weekend. On the Monday Cathy Mahon’s boy friend arrived to spend the week working

here in Durban and Cathy came for the weekend as she is in Nurses College now and is free from 3:30 on Friday afternoon.

Edgar, Netta, Charlotte and Tir and two of Edgar’s nephews came down and camped in their house trailer at Brighton Beach for a few days as Edgar had to go to UmF. Langa of the AmaZioni for weekend services. They came here to wash their clothes and had a couple of meals with us.

The next week we went up to Estcourt to get some corrugated roofing that Lyle brought down to go on the roof of a small church building at Indududu. We will visit them a couple of days.

(Later)

Tomorrow we are expecting Lyle and Sandy and Jonny to help us with some special meetings at Umlazi, Kwamashu and Indududu. It is very seldom that we go for a whole week without house guests. I normally do the cooking while Elsie sees to the guests and sets the table, makes salads and dessert, and other needful chores. We work together in nearly all that we do.

(Later)

Yesterday we made a trip to Indududu to deliver the corrugated iron and took our neighbor from across the street who had never been into the Reserve before. She has been a widow for three years and gets very lonely. She also had supper with us.

In between all this we manage to keep the books up to date for the Mission, care for the Correspondence Lessons and the Womens Lessons.

May God richly bless you all. We try to disburse the funds sent to us in a wise and careful manner.

With love in Christ,

Gerald Lee

AUSTRALIA

Letter from Wes & Merylin Briggs, serving with Wangutha Mission in ministry to Australian Aboriginal young people.

Dear Overseer & Mrs. Ottersen and praying friends,

Greetings to you in Jesus’ name.

We are so grateful for your continued prayer and financial support.

Does mean a lot to us to know we
ve friends across the sea praying
us and supporting us. We are
rilled that you are interested in us.
od is so good to us in every way;
meets our daily needs as we
est in Him.

We continue to keep busy here at
Wangutha. Wes's building program
doing fine, and I have felt God's
length in enabling me to do the
laundry job.

Seven of eleven students this
semester have become Christians.
is truly is a wonderful blessing
and it is great to see the change
these boys' lives.

Stuart (7) is doing very well at
school and growing up to be a
vely boy. Warrick (5) is enjoying
ee-school and is growing into a real
character. They are both full of
ee and have loads of energy.

It must be coming up to Con-
cagation time again soon. Do trust
your plans for they are going
Hl. We will pray for you that
uch blessings might be received
rough the meetings.

Would you continue to pray for
here at Wangutha and that the
ord would raise up more staff for
e next semester. "Truly the field
white and ready for harvest."

Must away and face our busy
iday.

With Christian love and thanks
from Wes, Merylin, Stuart &
Warrick Briggs

JAMAICA

The Missionary Church in Jamaica
P. O. Box 121
Kingston 8, Jamaica
7/13/79

Dear Brother Earl,

Thanks for the cheque dated
me 15th. We deeply appreciate
ee continued interest and support
C.C.C. of the work in Jamaica.
ee hope that you will find it pos-
sible to continue this assistance.
ur churches seem hard-pushed
nancially. Offerings are somewhat
own this year, while costs keep
aring. Nevertheless, we are trust-
ing the Lord to supply all our needs
He has promised.

I am happy to report that there
ss been no major damage to any

of our churches during the recent
flood disaster in Western Jamaica.
Neither has any of our members
suffered any appreciable loss. The
damage, however, to houses, crops,
livestock has run into millions of
dollars and there are some sixty
thousand or more that have been
left homeless. Our churches have
responded well in sending food and
clothing to those who have suffered
loss.

We are currently collecting funds
from our members which we will
use to assist those who will need
help in restoring their home and
crops, etc. Any contribution you
can make to this fund will be very
much appreciated.

We will be praying for the Lord's
rich blessing on your camps. We
anticipate reaching well over 200
youngsters in our four camps this
year, July 26th to August 24th.

Love to your family, and warm-

est greetings to the other members
of the staff there in Zion.

Sincerely in Christ,
Peter N. C. Spencer

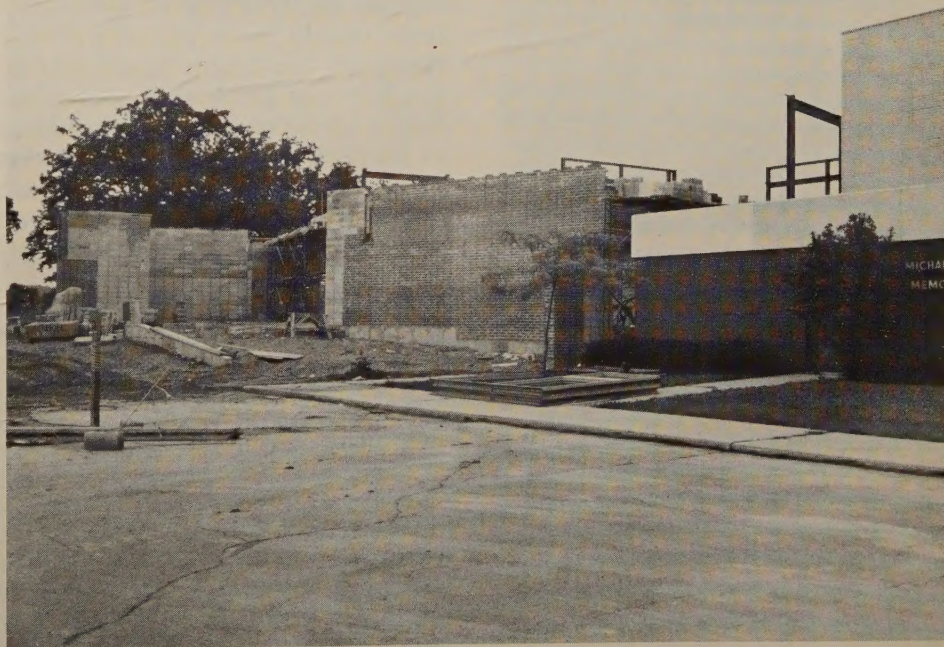
MISSION NOTES:

1978 SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION TOPS HALF BILLION MARK

New York City (From Missionary
News Service of July 16). In 1978,
the American Bible Society, to-
gether with its global partners
which make up the United Bible
Societies, distributed more than
a half billion Scriptures worldwide.

BACK TO THE BIBLE BROAD-
CAST has announced the appoint-
ment of Dr. Abe C. Van der Puy as
the new "Voice of Missions" for its
weekly missionary broadcast, be-
ginning July 2, 1979. Van der Puy
continues as president of the World
Radio Missionary Fellowship,
which operates radio station HCJB
at Quito, Ecuador.

New Building Progress



Work has been proceeding slowly
on the new building, due in part to
the very wet weather we have been
having. Target date for completion
of the building is still January 1st
of 1980. Gifts toward the new
building continue to come in week
by week with over \$135,000

having been given to date. With
God's blessing and the good cooper-
ation of all, the remaining \$65,000
of the needed \$200,000 will be in
by the time the building is com-
pleted. With interest rates being so
high, we are anxious to keep the
amount borrowed to a minimum.

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:16-20

The resurrection of Jesus was a glorious triumph over Satan, over death and the grave, and over all adversaries. This triumph, however, would have meant nothing to Jesus had it not resulted in bringing triumph of His cause, the redeeming to mankind from the bondage of sin. The disciples of Jesus did not realize that the Resurrection of their Lord meant a complete redemption for all believers and participation with Him in universal sovereignty. This passage teaches how He shares His sovereignty with believers by delegating to them in the Great Commission the responsibility of going into all the world to preach the Gospel of God's saving grace to all nations.

Of the thirteen appearances of Jesus after His resurrection only two are narrated in the Gospel of Matthew; the first His appearance to the women when He gave them the message to tell His brethren to go into Galilee where they would see Him; the second, His appearance to the eleven in Galilee when He gave the Great Commission. Of the thirteen appearances of Jesus, the most important to the Church and the world is the one related in Matthew of the meeting in Galilee, on a "mountain where Jesus had appointed them." The disciples had journeyed from Jerusalem to keep this special appointment which Jesus had made with them after the institution of the Lord's Supper in the upper room. As they beheld their risen Lord "they worshipped Him." Some were slow to believe this truly was Jesus and they doubted; but as Jesus removed the doubt from the heart of Thomas, and from the two disciples on their way to Emmaus, so He removed the doubt from these disciples in Galilee. He gave them His message, the Great Commission, declaring to them that all authority, all dominion and power in heaven and on earth had been given to Him as the Son of man, following His resurrection.

As victorious King, having been given all authority in heaven and

earth, Jesus makes claims to the hearts of men and nations. During His earthly ministry He was limited, as the Son of David, to "the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Instead of accepting Him as their King, they crucified Him. But this rejected, crucified Jesus arose from the dead. Then, as triumphant King, Jesus unfolds the program for evangelization which reaches out into all the world, regardless of racial, linguistic or social distinction. He, "the Savior of the world" longs for the salvation of "every creature."

A thrilling, compelling command is this which Jesus gave to His disciples, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations." No barrier of national boundry is to shut out the messengers of Jesus. **Christianity is a universal religion because it meets the needs, the desires and longings of all men.** A solemn responsibility is placed upon the heart of every follower of Jesus to overcome national prejudice, as did the Good Samaritan.

Jesus declared that those who believe should be baptized into the Name of the Triune God — "into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Jesus as the risen Savior, links the believer

by the vow and consecration made in baptism, into covenant relationship with the Triune God. The rite of baptism is to give evidence that the believer has put on Christ. The Apostolic Church practiced but one form of baptism, that of Triune Immersion. Every believer should obey God in baptism, thus openly confessing that he is a follower of Jesus and a truly born-again child of God.

Notice especially the importance of teaching as indicated in the Great Commission. After the believer has been baptized he needs to be taught to put into practice all that Jesus commanded. The Church, therefore, needs a faithful ministry to teach the Word of God. The Bible is a vast storehouse of knowledge and wisdom. Read it. Study it faithfully so that you can teach others to follow Jesus.

The closing words of the Gospel assure us of Jesus' abiding presence with every true child of God, and surely every Christian earnestly desires the presence of His precious Lord throughout life's journey. Jesus promised divine counsel, guidance and protection for God's people until the consummation of the Age.

Third World Evangelism At Your Doorstep

Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and members of other religious groups are generally slow to respond to the message of the Gospel or to make public commitments to Christ in their own culture. But when they are away from the social pressure of their peers they are much more open to the Gospel. Thus students, workers, emigres, or refugees from these cultures ought to be prime targets for evangelism.

One of the really great opportunities to reach many thousands of these for Christ is by opening our hearts and homes to needy refugee

families. Sponsoring refugee families is the most practical way of demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ and of sharing the blessed hope in Him. Will the evangelical church respond to this "open door"? Will you

Jesus said, "I was a stranger, and you invited me in."

Matthew 25:35 (NIV)

For further information, contact World Relief Refugee Services, Box WRC, Nyack, N.Y. 10960. Phone 914/353 0640.